

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 186600
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 PRS-01 SS-15
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DRAFTED BY AF/C:REGRIBBIN:LA
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AF/P: RHOLLIDAY(SUBS)
-----040310 082315Z /66

P 082156Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGUI PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 186600

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CT, US

SUBJECT:DETENTION OF WESTERN JOURNALISTS

1. AP WASHINGTON OFFICE HAS INFORMED DEPARTMENT THAT
AT REQUEST OF AP PRESIDENT FULLER NEW YORK BUSINESSMAN
MAURICE TEMPLESMAN ASKED GABONESE PRESIDENT BONGO
AUGUST 8 TO INTERCEDE ON GOLDSMITH'S BEHALF. BONGO,
ACCORDING TO TEMPLESMAN, SAID HE WOULD SEND A PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CAE TO PLEAD GOLDSMITH'S CASE.

2. FULLER REQUESTED THAT DEPARTMENT AND APPROPRIATE POSTS
BE INFORMED OF THIS UNDERSTAKING.

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PAGE 02 STATE 186600

3. DEPTOFF SPOKE WITH TEMPLESMAN WHO CONFIRMED THAT
BONGO HAS AGREED TO SEND PERSONAL EMISSARY TO BANGUI
IN NEXT DAY OR SO. DEPTOFF RELATED OUR RELUCTANCE AT
THIRD PARTY INTERVENTION GIVEN BOKASSA'S KNOWN
SENSITIVITIES ABOUT OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE IN CAE
SOVEREIGN MATTERS. TEMPLESMAN SAID BONGO WELL AWARE THIS
PROBLEM AND WOULD COUCH HIS MESSAGE TO BOKASSA

ACCORDINGLY. TEMPLESMAN GAVE BONGO BACKGROUND ON GOLDSMITH DETENTION AND EXPRESSED VIEW THAT GOLDSMITH ACTED UNPROFESSIONALLY IN FILING STORY WHILE IN COUNTRY. BONGO MESSAGE SUGGESTS, ACCORDING TO TEMPLESMAN, EXPULSION OF GOLDSMITH ON HUMANITARIAN BASIS. TEMPLESMAN EXPRESSED VIEW IN CONCLUSION THAT BONGO INITIATIVE MIGHT NOT DO ANY GOOD BUT WOULD NOT DO ANY HARM.

4. FOR LIBREVILLE: MICHAEL GOLDSMITH IS BRITISH SUBJECT AP CORRESPONDENT WHO WAS ARRESTED BY GOCAE AUTHORITIES ON JULY 14 FOR FAILING TO COMPLY WITH CENSORSHIP LAWS. GOCAE HAS STATED THAT HIS STORY FILED FROM BANGUI CONSTITUTES ESPIONAGE. GOLDSMITH CONTINUES TO BE HELD. USG EFFORTS ON HIS BEHALF HAVE BEEN REBUFFED, AND HMG IS EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTIES IN DEALING WITH GOCAE ON THE ISSUE, BUT CONTINUING ITS EFFORTS. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Review Date: 28-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
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Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 1671501
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DETENTION OF WESTERN JOURNALISTS
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, CT, US, UK, (GOLDSMITH)
To: BANGUI
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
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